

XXV. ADDRESS to Dr W. THOMSON, by the Students of the Class of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, unanimously agreed to at a Public Meeting called specially for the purpose, and presented at the close of the Session 1836-37.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,

26th April 1837.

SIR,

WE the undersigned Members of the Class of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, beg to offer you our best thanks for the zeal, ability, and success, with which you have performed the office of a teacher to us during the past session. The impaired state of the health of your father (whose pre-eminent exertions in the Medical School of Edinburgh are so universally and justly acknowledged), having naturally devolved on you the whole duties of this Class, it was, we believe, not without some feelings of distrust that many were inclined to look upon your engaging in that difficult and arduous task, and more particularly since your distinguished predecessor was so very able and admired a teacher. The mode, however, in which you have acquitted yourself has been such as to equal the best wishes of your warmest friends, and to bind us to you by all those ties of gratitude and respect which ever unite his pupils to a successful teacher. The perfect acquaintance which you have shewn with the numerous subjects of which you have had occasion to treat during the course, your extensive knowledge of medical literature, and your free command of language, have enabled you to impart to us views of the phenomena, causes, nature, and effects of diseases, that have been not less remarkable for their own intrinsic soundness, comprehensiveness, and interest, than for the great clearness

and perspicuity of detail with which they have been delivered and illustrated.

With the kindest wishes for your happiness and welfare, we remain, Sir, your most obedient servants, &c. &c.

XXVI. From HENRY MARSHALL, Esq., Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, Author of Notes on the Medical Topography of Ceylon, &c.

EDINBURGH, 1st July 1837.

I have known Dr WILLIAM THOMSON for a period of about fifteen years, during which time he has devoted himself to the acquisition of medical knowledge with unremitting zeal and assiduity, and under the most favourable circumstances. In one respect he was peculiarly fortunate, namely, in having studied under the superintendence and direction of his worthy and highly distinguished father. Dr THOMSON possesses excellent natural abilities, and from his complete literary, scientific, and professional education, his habits of study, and talent for communicating knowledge, I consider him eminently qualified for discharging the duties of a public teacher in a university, and in an especial manner for fulfilling the duties of the Chair of General Pathology. The concurrence of so many qualifications in the same individual is, I believe, rare in this country. Should Dr THOMSON succeed in obtaining the highly honourable appointment to which he aspires, I have every confidence that he will promote the respectability and interests of the University, and reflect no small degree of credit upon its Patrons.

HENRY MARSHALL.

XXVII. From JOHN SCOTT, Esq., M. D., Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

30 ALBANY STREET, EDINBURGH,
1st July 1837.

I have much pleasure in giving my testimonial to Dr WILLIAM THOMSON, as a candidate for the Chair of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh. Added to strong natural talents, Dr THOMSON has enjoyed opportunities of improvement in medical knowledge which have fallen to the lot of few members of our profession. Educated under his distinguished father with the utmost care, he has since visited the continental schools, and I have reason to know has neglected [none of his opportunities. For many years Dr THOMSON's attention has been directed to Pathology, and his writings are characterized by clearness and accuracy. During the last winter his lectures gave the highest satisfaction to his class of students, and I believe that no candidate could be selected who would do more credit to the University.

JOHN SCOTT, M. D

XXVIII. From EDWARD STANLEY, Esq., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology to the Royal College of Surgeons of London, Surgeon to St Bartholomew's Hospital, &c. &c.

LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, LONDON,
4th July 1837.

I have the greatest pleasure in presenting to Dr WILLIAM THOMSON an expression of my hope that he will be selected to fill the Chair of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, with the conviction that he is pre-eminently qua-

lified for it by his thorough knowledge, not only of Pathology, but of all the other departments of medical science. My estimate of Dr WILLIAM THOMSON's professional character is founded on the personal communications I have had with him, and from which I cannot but feel deeply interested in his success.

EDWARD STANLEY.

XXIX. From Dr ALEXANDER TWEEDIE, Physician to the London Fever Hospital, &c. &c.

LONDON, 12th July 1837.

It affords me pleasure to have an opportunity of expressing the high opinion I entertain of Dr WILLIAM THOMSON's talents and professional acquirements. He has enjoyed no ordinary advantage, in his early medical education having been conducted by his father Dr THOMSON, who has for many years been the distinguished Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh; while the ample opportunities he has subsequently enjoyed at home and abroad of cultivating medical science, he has turned to the best account. That his mind has been early directed to Pathological Anatomy, is shewn by his published writings, in which he has evinced extensive knowledge, patient investigation, and sound judgment.

I may be permitted to add, that the reputation which Dr W. THOMSON had acquired, has been increased by the manner in which he has conducted the Course of Lectures on Pathology in the absence of his father.

These circumstances will, I have no doubt, have due influence with the Patrons; and I feel convinced, that if Dr WILLIAM THOMSON be elected to the vacant Professorship

of Pathology, his appointment will contribute to sustain the high reputation of the University of Edinburgh.

ALEX. TWEEDIE, M. D.

XXX. From WILLIAM SHARPEY, M. D., Professor of General Anatomy and Physiology in the University College, London.

MY DEAR SIR,

LONDON, 20th July 1837.

In regard to your qualifications for the office of Professor of General Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, I need be very brief, as they will be more ably and fully stated by others. I shall only say, that I consider them to be of a very high order, and such as to fit you to discharge the duties of the office most ably and efficiently. This opinion is founded on my knowledge of you, derived from a long and intimate acquaintance; and, in particular, on what I know of your education—your great attainments in all branches of medical learning—the uncommon opportunities you have enjoyed both at home and abroad of advancing your knowledge, and the diligent and effectual manner in which you have availed yourself of them—the special attention which you have so long bestowed on Morbid Anatomy and Pathology—the evidence of learning and ability displayed in your published writings on pathological subjects—and, lastly, the successful result of what may be considered a probationary course of Pathology delivered by you last year.

I am, my dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

W. SHARPEY.

Dr W. THOMSON.

XXXI. From ROBERT LEE, M. D., F. R. S., Lecturer on Midwifery at St George's Hospital, Physician-Accoucheur to the British Lying-in Hospital, and Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

LONDON, 17th July 1837.

I have great satisfaction in expressing the high opinion which I entertain of the professional talents, zeal, and attainments of Dr WILLIAM THOMSON; and my sincere conviction, that the reputation of the University of Edinburgh will be greatly promoted by his appointment to the vacant Chair of Pathology. Dr THOMSON has spent many years of hard study under the direction of his distinguished Father; and has, besides, enjoyed opportunities of acquiring an accurate and extensive knowledge of Medicine in all its departments, which have fallen to the lot of few men in this country. From those who have been present when he officiated for his Father, I have learned that he gave the best possible proof of his abilities to discharge the duties of a teacher.

ROBERT LEE, M. D.

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